

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

.... In a method of label selection for end-to-end transport of label switched traffic through a communications network between a source node and a destination node, a request message is launched toward the destination node from the source node. The request message includes a label list having one or more label identifiers indicative of respective corresponding labels available for use by the source node. The label list is revised, at a cross-connect service each successive hop between the source node and the destination node, based on labels available for use by each respective hop, to produce a reduced label list. The reduced label list includes label identifiers indicative of respective corresponding labels available for end-to-end transport of label switched traffic between the source node and the destination node.

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